

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this patent application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments, and the following remarks.

Claims 1-7, 9 and 11-12 are in the application. Claims 1 and 11 have been amended. Claim 10 has been canceled. The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 4-7 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by Meyer and rejected claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Meyer in view of Yiu. The Examiner stated that claims 10-12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the elements of claim 10, now canceled. Claim 11 has been amended to depend from claim 1. It is now believed that the application is in condition for allowance, since none of the references, either alone or in combination, describe a rod clip having the features of amended claim 1. Early allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent by facsimile-transmission to the Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on May 17, 2005.

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